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The Whitney Biennial is a daring feat. 26

March Madness: Don't miss these five games. 32

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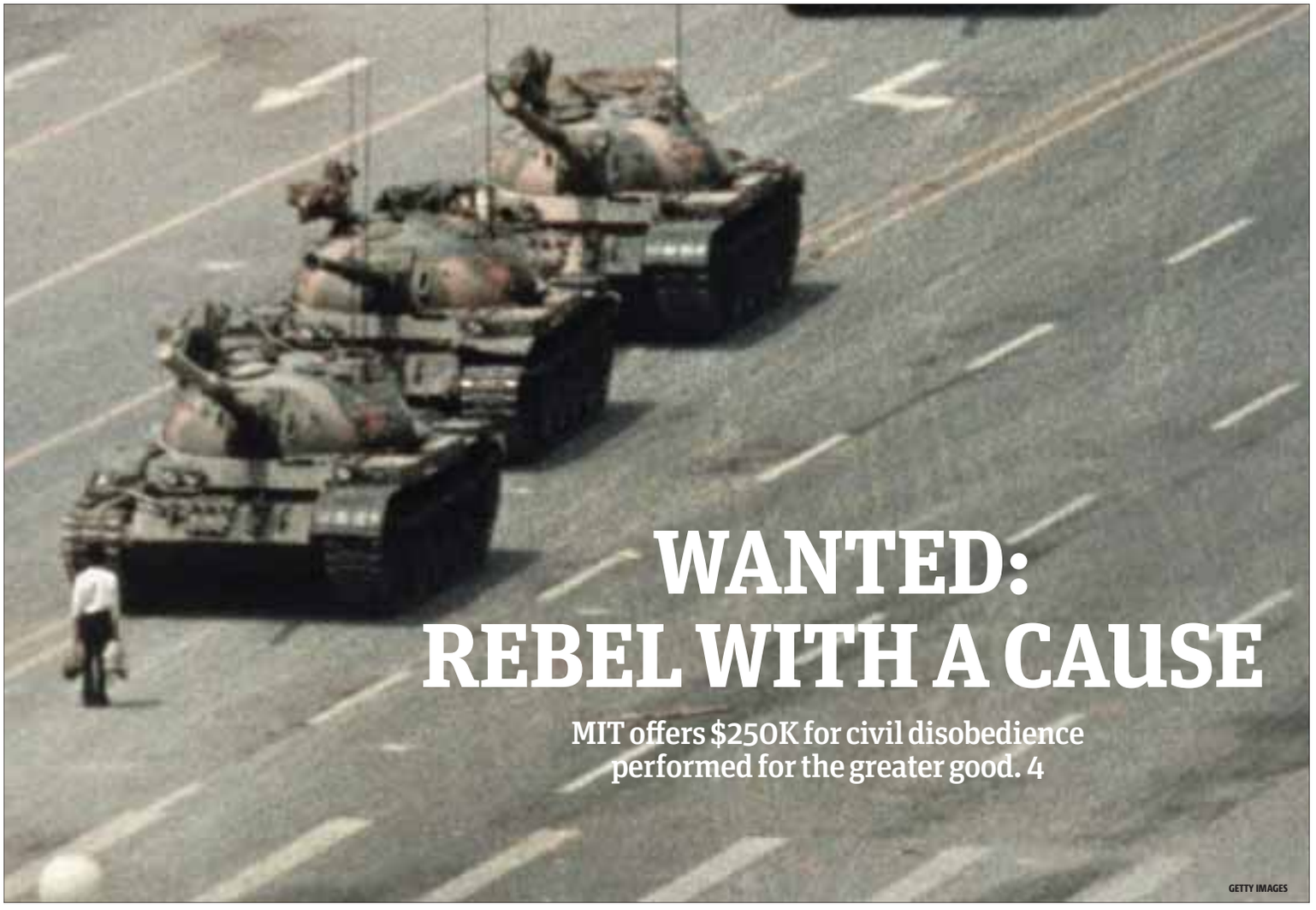

WANTED: REBEL WITH A CAUSE

MIT offers $250K for civil disobedience performed for the greater good. 4

GETTY IMAGES

LAWMAKERS PRESSURE COMEY ON TRUMP CLAIM

1 A key Republican lawmaker said he did not believe the Obama administration wiretapped Trump Tower during the 2016 election campaign, adding to pressure on FBI Director James Comey to provide evidence supporting or debunking Republican President Donald Trump's claim. "We don't have any evidence that that took place," House of Representatives Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes

told a news conference. "I don't think there was an actual tap of Trump Tower." Trump made the claim on Twitter on March 4 without providing evidence. Nunes' congressional committee is one of at least four that have added the startling accusation to investigations of possible Russian meddling in the election campaign. REUTERS

FEDERAL RESERVE RAISES RATES AS JOB GAINS

2 The U.S. Federal Reserve raised interest rates on Wednesday for the second time in three months, a move spurred by steady economic growth, strong job gains and confidence that inflation is rising to the central bank's target. The decision to lift the target overnight interest rate by 25 basis points to a range of 0.75 percent to 1.00 percent marked one of the Fed's most convincing steps yet in the effort to return monetary policy to a more normal footing. However, the Fed's policy-setting committee did not flag any plan to accelerate the pace of monetary tightening. Although inflation is "close" to the Fed's 2 percent target, it noted that goal was "symmetric," indicating a possible willingness to allow prices to rise at a slightly faster pace. REUTERS

RYAN FORESEES NO MAJOR CHANGES IN HEALTH PLAN

3 House of Representatives Speaker Paul Ryan said the major elements of the Republican health care overhaul plan backed by President Trump will remain intact despite conservative opposition to a bill whose prospects remain up in the air. The White House and Ryan struggled to shore up support among Republican lawmakers for the legislation ahead of a key hurdle in the House Budget

Committee on Thursday. Vice President Mike Pence was set to met with conservative House lawmakers and then the entire Republican House membership. Ryan, who unveiled the legislation last week and is its main champion in Congress, said he was open to making "improvements and refinements." REUTERS

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

TRAINING DAY

5 An F-35 fighter jet take-offs for a training mission at Hill Air Force Base on Wednesday in Ogden, Utah. Hill is the first Air Force base to get combat ready F-35's. They currently have 17 that might be deployed in the fight against terrorism and ISIS in the near future. GETTY IMAGES

FLA. AIRPORT SHOOTER MENTALLY FIT FOR TRIAL

4 An Iraq war veteran accused of killing five people in a shooting at a Florida airport this year appears mentally fit to stand trial despite psychiatric health issues, a federal judge said. U.S. District Judge Beth Bloom said she would not order a mental competency evaluation for Esteban Santiago after his lawyers said he was taking prescribed anti-psychotic medication and participating in his defense. "He has been increasingly engaged and present during each of his sessions with his lawyers," said Bloom, who sits in the Southern District of Florida in Miami. Santiago, 26, was diagnosed with schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder after his arrest, according to court documents. Authorities say he opened fire in the baggage claim area of the Fort Lauderdale airport on Jan.

WELCOME TO METRO.US!

ALEXIS SACHDEV, WEB PRODUCER Another day, another "fake news" rant from the commander-in-tweet. This time, his target was Rachel Maddow and an investigative journalist who obtained Donald Trump's 2005 tax returns. ("A reporter, who nobody ever heard of," by Trump's standards.) But the White House verified the numbers: Trump paid nearly $38 million in taxes that year. So who's lying? The president's de facto landlord? Or that no-name journalist, who's known Trump for two decades? Read more about this head-scratcher at **metro.us/news**

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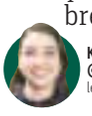
Zoe Neville, 5, of Boxborough, came to Boston Common to join the anti-Trump protestors, carrying a sign that reads, "We stand with love." GETTY IMAGES

Civil disobedience now comes with a $250K reward

The MIT Media Lab is holding a competition to reward dissenters, disrupters and rule breakers.



KRISTIN TOUSSAINT
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letters@metro.us

Galileo, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela and Malala Yousafzai.

They were all considered "rule breakers" of their time, initially punished for their beliefs but ultimately celebrated as trail-blazing heroes.

Now, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Lab wants to honor the next generation of rule breakers with a $250,000 "Disobedience Award."

LinkedIn co-founder Reid Hoffman, who is a member of the Media Lab's advisory council, donated the cash prize, which is intended to attract nominees from around the globe.

The new award will go to an individual — or group — who engages in "extraordinary disobedience for the benefit of society." Nominees for the award can be from the U.S. or anywhere in the world, but must adhere to the principles of "nonviolence, creativity, courage and taking responsibility for one's actions."

"Questioning authority and thinking for yourself is an essential component of science, of civil rights, of society," MIT Media Lab director Joi Ito said in a video announcing the competition. "At some level, disobedience is at the root of this creativity."

The cash prize comes at a particularly relevant time in the U.S., given the current political climate. Since the election of President Donald Trump, tens of thousands of people have taken to the streets to protest his travel ban, his administration's stance on climate change, science and health care, as well as his personal statements on women.

> *"Questioning authority and thinking for yourself is an essential component of science, of civil rights, of society."*
> MIT Media Lab director Joi Ito

Inspiration for the prize, conceived of last year, was more a reaction to global unrest and division than a direct answer to Trump, said Ethan Zuckerman, director of the Center for Civic Media at the MIT Media Lab.

He noted recent instances of disobedience, "from government officials defying orders from the White House, to President Trump's very campaign, which could be thought of as disobedient to existing and established political orders." But those weren't directly connected to the award, he said.

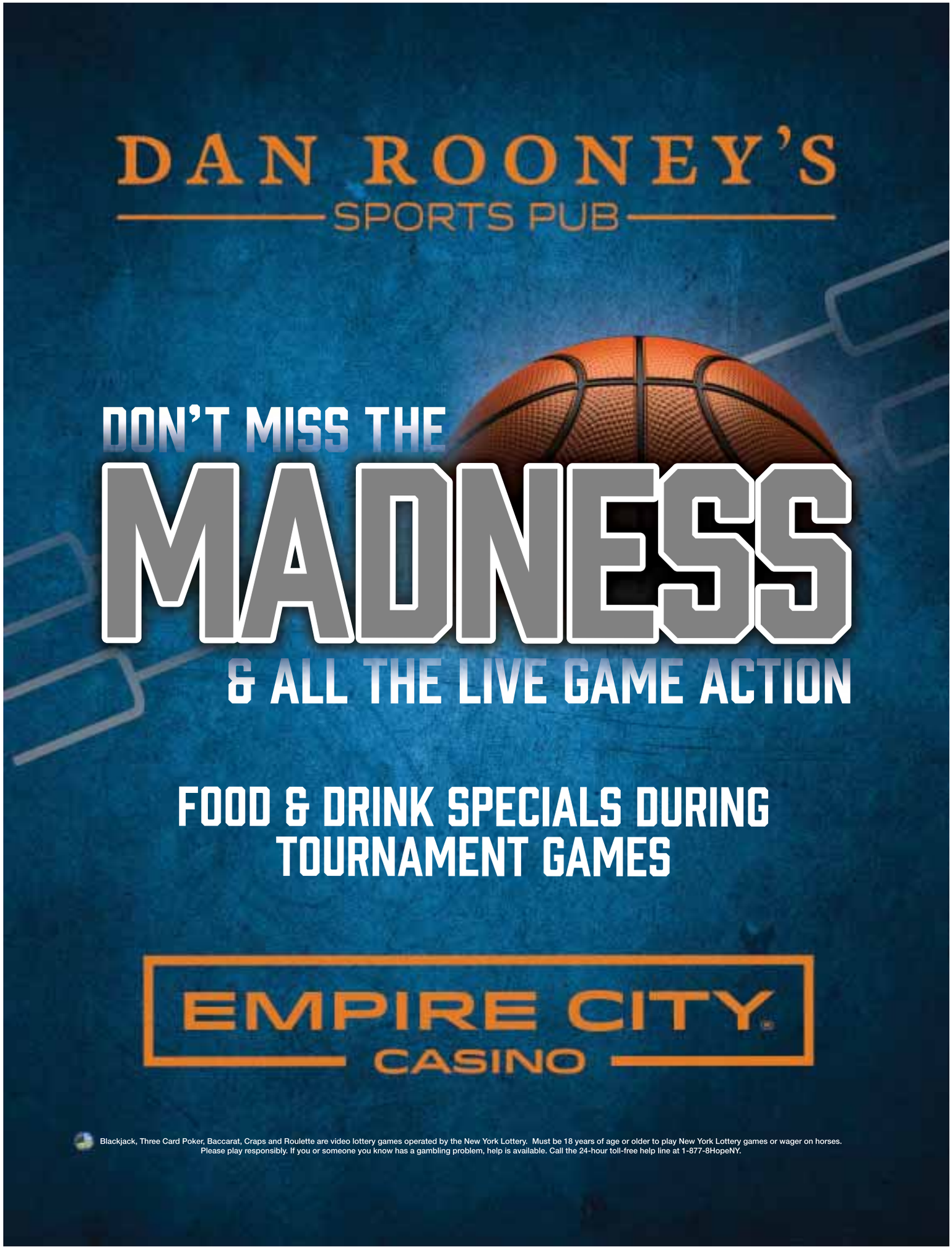
The individuals whose principled positions helped inspire the award include the Pakistani women's rights advocate Malala Yousafzai, the Russian rock group and activists Pussy Riot, and the Chinese artist and dissident, Ai Weiwei.

Located on the MIT campus, the Media Lab also welcomed nominees involved in science, culture, politics or other areas — as long as they find a "fundamental issue on which they must act." On its website, it offers up 21 people through history who serve as examples of courageous dissenters.

The lab, like the award, is a little unconventional. The research and design institution has used video, holography, electronic music, graphic design and cognition technology to study the way people think, express, and communicate ideas, and explore new scientific frontiers.

Nominations, which can be made online, opened this week, and will be accepted through May 1. The winner will be announced in July.

DAN ROONEY'S
SPORTS PUB



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Health hazards persist in waste-transfer neighborhoods

Nearly all the city's trash is processed in three neighborhoods in Queens, Brooklyn and the Bronx, and a bill to change that has met stiff opposition.

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High school senior Andy Gonzelez's neighborhood is full of trucks and right near a waste-transfer station. BESS ADLER

Even on the sunniest day, a dark cloud lingers. It is the veil of exhaust and stench of garbage that hovers over northern Bushwick.

Osiris Arias and his wife, Marina, have endured it since they moved to the Brooklyn neighborhood in 1995, and it has only gotten worse, they say. The source of their problem stands a few hundred feet from their home: a waste-transfer station.

Operated by Five Star Carting, the transfer station is one of 15 privately owned facilities in the area. Nearly half of New York City's daily mountain of trash is trucked in, sorted and trucked out from those facilities. Calls to Five Star Carting were not returned.

"If that thing wasn't here it would be perfect," said Arias, an immigrant from the Dominican Republic. The family of five does not have the means to move, so they have remained in their first-floor apartment on the corner of Thames Street and Knickerbocker Avenue.

Their youngest son, 9-year-old Oziel, suffers from debilitating asthma attacks, which the couple attributes in large part to the effects of the transfer station.

Three neighborhoods in three boroughs take in nearly 80 percent of the city's trash, about 40,000 tons a day. They are located in the South Bronx, Jamaica, Queens, and North Brooklyn.

There are no waste-transfer stations in Manhattan, despite the fact that the borough produces 40 percent of the city's garbage. Attempts to place one on the Upper East Side was met with stiff opposition from the community, yet resulted in a compromise in 2015 for a marine transfer station that is slated to open in 2020.

Staten Island doesn't have a waste-transfer facility, but residents there had to live for decades with the effects of the Fresh Kills Landfill before it closed in 2001.

A recent City Council bill addresses the issue and seeks to help the affected neighborhoods. But that, too, has encountered opposition. In the Hunts Point section of the Bronx, the effects of waste transfer stations in the neighborhood are compounded by the pollution from the trucks that cart the garbage in and out.

Andy Gonzelez, 17, lives in that area with his family, just off of the Bruckner Expressway. He holds his breath outside his apartment, he says, because the block he lives on is like a gateway to the waste-transfer stations.

Melissa Iachan, an attorney for New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, said the council's bill is meant to limit the continued growth of the companies controlling the industry in places like Hunts Point and Bushwick.

Iachan said the situation started to get worse 15 years ago, after the Staten Island landfill was finally capped.

"Enterprising people saw money and control by opening transfer stations and charging the city to accept the garbage," she said. "These business people were looking to build their facilities in neighborhoods where residents weren't organized enough, were scared to speak up, and didn't have the resources to fight against them."

For more information about the hazards of waste-transfer facilities, visit metro.us

Searching for solutions to waste-transfer problems

The New York City Council has been trying to tackle the waste-transfer problem.

A bill introduced in 2014 would have capped the maximum amount of garbage each company could truck into each community district.

The legislation sought an 18 percent reduction in the maximum amount of waste the facilities were allowed to process. Following forceful resistance, the bill was revised in 2016. The new version calls for a 50 percent reduction in maximum capacity, but with exemptions if the companies do more recycling and use rail and marine transfer instead of trucks.

Zevel Transfer LLC is one of the waste-transfer stations in Hunts Point, Bronx. They deal with recycled materials. BESS ADLER

Called Intro 495, the bill's primary sponsors are council members Stephen Levin and Antonio Reynoso, who both represent the areas of Brooklyn that feel the impact from the waste stations.

Levin said he understands the issue is a controversial one, but he maintains a few neighborhoods shouldn't have to bear most of the burden — and potential health risks — for most of the city.

"It's been unregulated for too long. It's been allowed to persist in this inequitable framework for decades," Levin said. Eighteen council members remain supportive of the new bill, fewer than the original one.

Private garbage and carting companies oppose Intro 495, as do elected officials who rely on those facilities for economic viability in their districts. Trash capacity restrictions will lead to job loss, they contend, and diverting garbage to new locations will increase costs.

Mayor Bill de Blasio has not weighed in on the measure. The mayor's office referred to a statement provided by the Sanitation Department, which said it is "committed to reducing the burden of waste management infrastructure on historically overburdened communities. We look forward to working with the Council on ways to achieve this goal."

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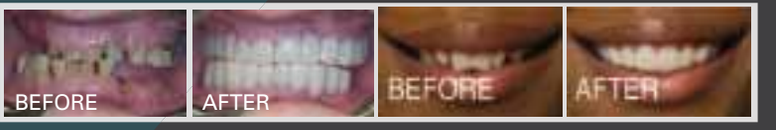

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Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announces arrests in "Operation Sticky Fingers" on March 15, 2017. OFFICE OF AG ERIC SCHNEIDERMAN

New York AG: 12 indicted in multimillion-dollar organized theft ring

"Operation Sticky Fingers" recovered $12 million in stolen goods from Best Buy, Office Max and pet stores.

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A sophisticated organized crime operation stole merchandise from the shelves of Staples, Best Buy, Office Max and even pet stores, then sold it online for near-retail prices, authorities said. The multi-state network had been active for 20 years, and took in more than $12 million since 2012.

On Wednesday, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announced the indictment of 12 people in what he called a two-decade criminal operation.

Called "Operation Sticky Fingers," the 10-month investigation was led by the Attorney General's Organized Crime Task Force, with assistance from the New York State Police.

"This brazen ring of criminals methodically stole millions from stores across 28 states — resulting in one of the largest-ever busts of a retail theft ring," Schneiderman said during the early afternoon press conference in his office in lower Manhattan.

The charges include enterprise corruption, money laundering, criminal possession of stolen property and conspiracy. If convicted, each defendant could face up to 25 years in prison.

The crime ring's hierarchy was modeled off of the military, the attorney general said, and the operations were run like a corporation, with detailed records of the crews' success. It even required expense forms.

Authorities say the operation was run by Richard Rimbaugh of Manhattan, known as "The General," who fenced millions of dollars worth of merchandise that his crews had stolen.

Rimbaugh, 64, was arrested Monday night in his Upper West Side apartment, which Schneiderman said was "floor to ceiling full of merchandise." Authorities seized $7.7 million from the homes and accounts of the dozen people arrested, in addition to 5,300 pieces of allegedly stolen merchandise.

UPS delivered five boxes of stolen goods while investigators were at the apartment, authorities said.

Rimbaugh's crews, managed by "Field Marshal" George Athanasantos, 62, of Brooklyn, would go on missions to Staples, Best Buy, Office Max and pet stores. There, they would swipe Bose headphones, expensive calculators and fancy flea collars. They would send Rimbaugh the stolen items, authorities said. He would then sell the merchandise online for near-retail prices from his company, which he called American Media Soft.

The teams were outfitted in specially designed vests that could conceal the merchandise they stole, and equipped with security-evading and disabling devices they called "kryptonite." Printed on the back of the vests were nicknames such as "Nipplehead," "Princess" and "Baby Arm Johnson."

The crews could make off with $45,000 worth of goods in a single haul, authorities said. And they moved from state to state to avoid detection.

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The heavy snowfall predictions caused a major run for groceries. METRO

National Weather Service knew Stella wouldn't live up to hype

"The nature of the beast is that there's always uncertainty in every forecast and we have to get better at describing that," meteorologist Greg Carbin said.

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New York City prepared itself for snowstorm Stella's onslaught. Weather forecasters called for nearly 2 feet of snow. The mayor canceled school. Commuters couldn't get to work as MTA shut services down and modified others. UberEats wasn't delivering food.

But things didn't have to get so real, according to reports, because the National Weather Service knew by Monday afternoon that New York wasn't going to get slammed, but never told the public.

Drastic changes to a weather forecast are what meteorologists call the "windshield wiper effect," Bob Henson, a meteorologist for the website Weather Underground, told the AP.

"This was the prudent thing to do, as making a dramatic change in the snowfall forecast and risking having to flip back and forth could produce an unwelcome result of less readiness and vigilance," an NWS spokeswoman told Patch.

"There was still going to be a large impact on the morning commute in many areas," she added, "despite the lower snowfall beginning to show up in some, but not all, of the forecasts."

Basically, NWS knew by Monday afternoon that we were only going to get 4 to 8 inches, but kept it to themselves so the public wouldn't get confused.

That's because the real danger was ice and sleet, Greg Carbin, chief of forecast operations at the Weather Prediction Center in Maryland, told the AP.

Marshall Shepherd, a meteorology professor from the University of Georgia, told the AP that the public tends to zero in on worst-case scenarios.

"The perception of 'bust' is that it didn't materialize for New York in the manner expected. Much of the expected snow fell as sleet," Shepherd said in an email. "To me, ice is a far greater hazard. If a pitcher throws a strike down the center of the plate or just off the outside corner, it's still a strike."

New York City expected 17 to 24 inches from Stella, but she only delivered 4 to 8 inches of snow on Tuesday. LENYON WHITAKER

Baby Boomers May Avoid Knee Surgery With Modern Arthritis Treatments

Doctors say these two factors are the keys to knee arthritis treatment success and relieving pain without surgery

By Matt Edgar

America's Health Writer

New York City - Everyone has said it at one time or another. If I had only known about "this" sooner - things would be very different today.

That's what many knee arthritis pain sufferers are saying about this technology and treatment.

"We all know that countless lives are being saved every year because of early detection and better treatment" noted the clinic director at the ***NY Pain MD*** in New York City. "*The same holds true for treating arthritis pain. I believe we are having so much success at* ***NY Pain MD*** *because of two factors: One is we are using advanced medical technology and treatments a lot of clinics do not use. And second, the word has spread to our community and so many knee arthritis sufferers are coming in sooner. And the earlier we can treat knee arthritis - the better the results. The key to trying to avoid knee replacement surgery is doing the correct treatment as soon as possibly"*

What is the "correct treatment?"

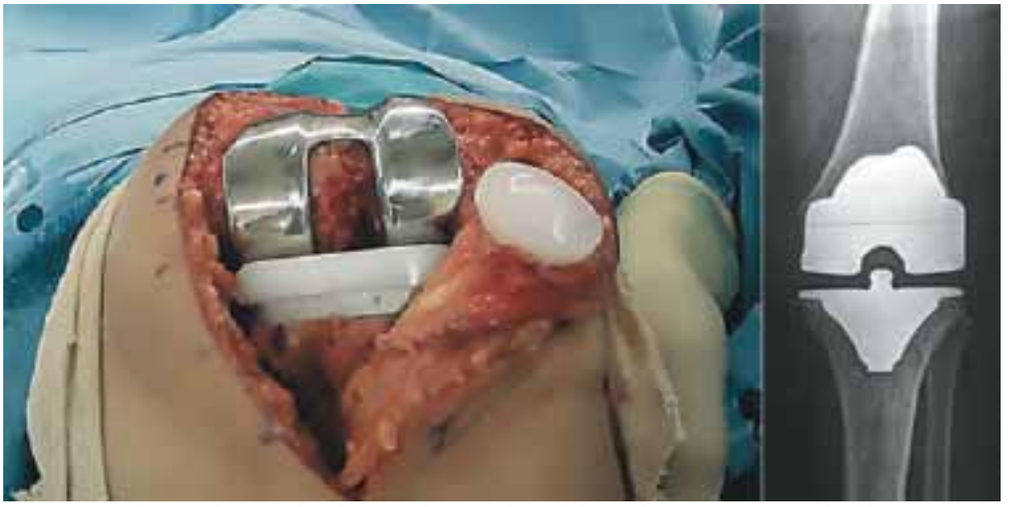
"That depends," said the director. *"There is no one answer when it comes to medical conditions. Knee arthritis is no different. That's why, if you have knee pain, you should have it evaluated by a doctor who deals with and treats knee pain every day,"* added the director.

For many knee arthritis pain sufferers the right treatment is Viscosupplementation whereby a preparation of Hyaluronic acid a gel-like FDA approved medicine is applied directly into the knee joint using *Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology.*

Hyaluronic acid is the natural lubricant and shock absorber of your joints and is found to be decreased in arthritis sufferers. This is similar to running your without oil. Obviously, the sooner you put oil back in the car - the less damage will be done. That's why some doctors feel early viscosupplecosupplementation gets the best results and is so important for avoiding surgery.

The director believes one of the most important factors for the success of viscosupplementation is making sure you are getting it into the joint space precisely. That's why the doctors at ***NY Pain MD*** use advanced imaging technology to apply *Precision Arthritis Targetin*g during every treatment.

A device called the "C-Arm" allows the doctor to see into the joint and actually watch the medicine be applied exactly where it is supposed to. Research shows that performing procedures without Precision Arthritis Targeting (P.A.T.T.)can result in missing the joint space as much as 30% of the time. If you had viscosupplementation treatments without Presision Arthritis Targeting Technology and did not get good results - this may be why.



"If you have knee arthritis pain, viscosupplementation might be the answer you are looking for. The keys are not wait, get a good evaluation from an expert and make sure precision arthritis targeting is used to make sure you have the best chance for success."

Can This Be Avoided? Total knee replacement is serious surgery requiring months of rehabilitation. Some doctors think modern treatments done early enough can keep baby boomers from going under the knife.

Normal Pain-Free Knee Joint

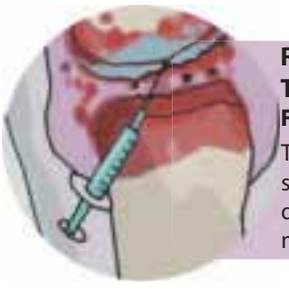
Everyone Wants Proof:

In the artist simulated drawings, picture #1 is a normal, pain-free knee. There is no arthritis and the knee can move and bend freely without pain.

Knee With Painful Arthritis

Pain -

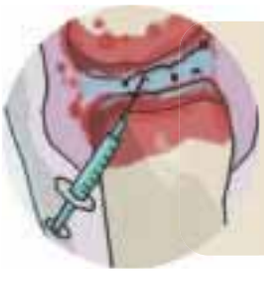
Illustration shown is a knee joint with painful xosteo-arthritis. Arthritis causes the joint space to decrease, grinding, stiffness, decreased motion, bone spurs,swelling and a lot of pain.



Research Shows Doctors Miss The Joint Space Up To 30% Of The Time Without Advanced Imaging

Failed Treatment -

The injection (Lubrication medicine) misses the joint space. Research shows this occurs up to 30% of the time without the use of the digital imaging to guide the injection. This is why lubrication medicine may not have worked for you



Lubrication Medicine Injected Directly Into Knee Join Like "Joint Oil" using Precision Targeting Technology

Succesful Treatment -

Sucessful Treatment - Lubrication Medicine (blue) being precisely injected directly into the knee joint using digital imaging. Advance imaging allows treatments to be as precise as possible. Lubrication medicine can lubricate the joint and decrease pain.

Knee Pain Screenings Offered To Help Determine If New York Metro Area Residents Qualify For Popular Treatment

Knee pain sufferers have limited time to claim knee pain screening to see if all-natural knee arthritis treatment might work for them

If you qualify for this treatment, it might be one of the happiest days of your life.

That's because, for the past year and a half, hundreds of knee pain sufferers have flocked to ***NY Pain MD*** New York City.

That's when their specially trained-doctors added Hyalgan treatments to their already successful comprehensive knee pain relief program.

Viscosupplementation is unique because - even-though it is manufactured by a pharmaceutical company, it is NOT considered a drug because it is a natural substance with an incredible story.

Why So Many Want It

You see, when you suffer with arthritis - the lubricating fluid (synovial fluid) in your knee joint dries up.

This means instead of gliding smoothly - your bones start to rub and grind against each other.

This causes a little pain in the beginning - but over time the pain steadily gets worse until it is excruciating.

Like "Joint Oil"

Viscosupplementation works so well because it is like 'joint oil." It is a natural substance that contains one of the natural building blocks of the synovial fluid that lubricates your knee.

Scientists and researchers discovered this natural building block to synovial fluid in the rooster's comb - that big red thing on top of the roosters head. It is extracted from the roosters comb, purified and concentrated. They have also developed medical lubricants that are also natural but made a bit like yogurt and "cultured" into highly effective arthritis pain-fighting medical lubricants.

When introduced directly into your knee joint, it is like squirting oil on a rusty door hinge.

Viscosupplementation allows your joints to glide more smoothly eliminating a lot of the rubbing, grinding and pain.

Can Supplements Do The Same Thing?

No. Glucosamine and chondroitin and other supplements are much different. You can only get this from a doctor and it often helps knee pain sufferers who got limited or no success from glucosamine and chondroitin. Beware of unsubstantiated claims made by supplements to do what this advanced medical procedure does.

Why You Should Try This Even If You've Already Had Similar Treatments Without Results...

"We have been able to help so many knee pain sufferers - even many who have already tried other treatments like Synvisc, Supartz, Orthovisc and even Hyalgan. This is because our treating doctors always use ***"Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology".*** *This allows us to place the Viscosupplementation exactly where is needs to be. Studies show doctors doing joint injections without technology can miss the joint up to 30% of the time."* noted the Director of Center

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How To Find Out If It Can HelpYou?

If you have knee pain, the ***NY Pain MD*** doctors would like to invite you for a no-obligation screening to see if you are a candidate for their treatments using *Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology.*

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And here's something really important - Viscosupplementation treatments are covered by most insurance, union plans and even medicare. To schedule your no obligation screening or if you have any questions:

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NYC PAIN MD

800-885-KNEE (5633)

Hawaii judge halts Trump's new travel ban before it can go into effect

President Donald Trump has said the policy is critical for national security.

Just hours before President Donald Trump's revised travel ban was set to go into effect, a U.S. federal judge in Hawaii on Wednesday issued an emergency halt to the order's implementation.

The action was the latest legal blow to the administration's efforts to temporarily ban refugees as well as travelers from six predominantly Muslim countries.

The new ban, signed by the president on March 6, had aimed to overcome legal problems with a January executive order that caused chaos at airports and sparked mass protests before a Washington judge stopped its enforcement in February.

U.S. District Judge Derrick Watson put an emergency stop to the new order in response to a lawsuit filed by the state of Hawaii, which argued that the order discriminated against Muslims in violation of the U.S. Constitution. President Trump has said the policy is critical for national security and does not discriminate against any religion.

Judge Watson concluded in his ruling that while the order did not mention Islam by name, "a reasonable, objective observer ... would conclude that the Executive Order was issued with a purpose to disfavor a particular religion." Watson was appointed to the bench by former Democratic President Barack Obama.

People line up to enter the Prince Jonah Kuhio Federal Building and U.S. District Courthouse on Wednesday in Honolulu, Hawaii. President Donald Trump faces a day of legal reckoning Wednesday on the fate of his revised travel ban, with three federal courts from Maryland to Hawaii to mull the measure on the eve of its implementation. GETTY IMAGES

Trump said the judge's legal block "makes us look weak" and represented "unprecedented judicial overreach," speaking at a rally in Nashville, Tennessee. He said he'll take case "as far as it needs to go" including to the Supreme Court.

Paul Ryan, the Republican Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, said the ban was needed to improve vetting of people entering the United States and he had no doubt that it would be upheld by higher courts.

The legal battle is likely to move now to the federal appeals circuit and could eventually get to the U.S. Supreme Court. Hawaii and other opponents of the ban claimed that the motivation behind it was Trump's campaign promise of "a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States."

Trump later toned down that language and said he would implement a policy of "extreme vetting" of foreigners coming to the United States.

Watson's order is only temporary until the broader arguments in the case can be heard. He set an expedited hearing to determine if his ruling should be extended.

Trump's first travel order was more sweeping than the second revised order. Like the current one, it barred citizens of Iran, Libya, Syria, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen from entering the country for 90 days, but it also included Iraq, which was taken off the list of banned countries in the subsequent order. REUTERS

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NYC's oldest bar, McSorley's Old Ale House, ready for St. Patrick's Day crowds

The bar was originally an all-male tavern.

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With St. Patrick's Day a day a way, McSorley's Old Ale House is readying to welcome a crowd of beer-loving New Yorkers and out-of-towners.

What sets this watering hole apart, aside from its limited "dark or light" beer menu, is that it's the oldest bar in the city, a distinction proven after extensive research by the bar's official historian Bill Wander.

Located on East 7th Street at Cooper Square, the Irish tavern has retained its such historic details as the original wooden bar and pot-bellied stove; iconic tchotchkes adorning the walls, which run the gamut from shackles worn by a prisoner of war from the Civil War to a horseshoe that legend says came from one of the horses that pulled Abraham Lincoln's hearse.

McSorley's was originally an all-male establishment known by its slogan, "good ale, raw onions, and no ladies." Female customers were admitted to most bars by about 1960, but McSorley's was the last bar in the city to admit only men.

Women presented their case with a lawsuit in 1970, Seidenberg vs. McSorley, that ultimately resulted in "McSorley's law," prohibiting sex discrimination in bars, hotels, restaurants, airplanes, golf clubs, and other public accommodations.

Matthew Maher, the former bartender/manager, has owned McSorley's since 1977. The Maher family is just the third family to own the bar since it opened and in a strange twist of fate, his daughter Teresa became the very first woman to work behind the bar in 1994.

McSorley's Old Ale House COURTESY 6SQFT

Teresa Maher explained to us that if her father hadn't purchased the entire building as well as the business, they "probably wouldn't be here anymore." She also noted that some of the hundreds of items that line the walls and shelves of the bar area are more than a century old.

"Some of the artifacts decorating the bar would probably just disintegrate if they were taken out of here," she said. "That is just how old and fragile they are. None of the items have been removed since 1910."

Some of the oldest items are the turkey wishbones hanging from the old gas lamp over the bar. They were put up during World War I and were hung by doughboys as wishful symbols of a safe return from the war. When they returned, they would remove the wishbone they had placed there. The bones left dangling represent those who never came back.

"We reluctantly had to clean the years of dust off them about six years ago after the city started doing the letter grading of bars and restaurants and suggested that we remove them as the dust could potentially fall in drinks," Maher said. "My father and I wish we hadn't had to disturb them but it was either clean the dust or take them down, so we carefully cleaned them."

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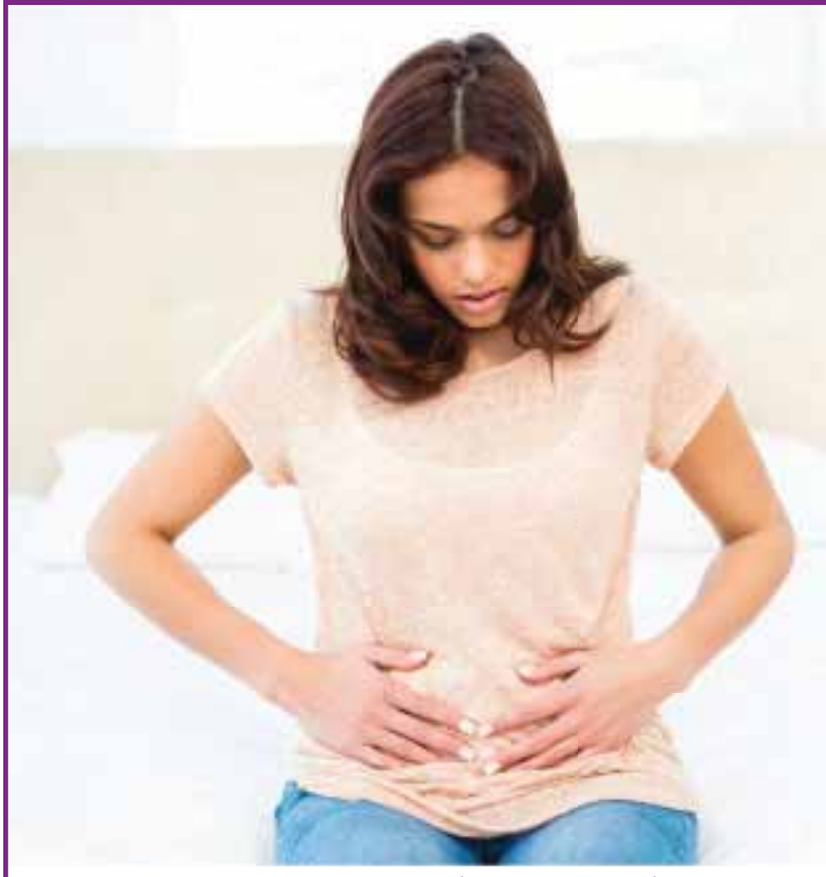

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US indicts Russian spies, hackers over massive 2014 Yahoo hack

The indictments, announced at a news conference in Washington, represent the first time the U.S. government has criminally charged Russian officials for cyber offenses.

The U.S. government on Wednesday unsealed charges against two Russian spies and two criminal hackers for allegedly pilfering 500 million Yahoo user accounts in 2014.

The contents of at least 30 million accounts were accessed as part of a spam campaign and at least 18 people who used other internet service providers, such as Google, were also victimized, the government charged.

The officers of the FSB, Russia's Federal Security Service, which is a successor to the KGB, were identified as Dmitry Dokuchaev and his superior, Igor Sushchin, the government said.

Both men are in Russia, it said.

Alexsey Belan, who is on the list of most-wanted cyber criminals, and Karim Baratov, who was born in Kazakhstan but has Canadian citizenship, were also named in the indictment.

The Justice Department said Baratov was arrested in Canada on Tuesday and his case is pending with Canadian authorities.

Belan was arrested in Europe in June 2013 but escaped to Russia before he could be extradited to the United States, according to the Justice Department.

"The criminal conduct at issue, carried out and otherwise facilitated by officers from an FSB unit that serves as the FBI's point of contact in Moscow on cybercrime matters, is beyond the pale," said acting Assistant Attorney General Mary McCord.

A staff member reveals a wanted posters for one of three Russians charged. GETTY IMAGES

McCord said the hacking campaign was waged by the FSB to collect intelligence but that the two hackers used the collected information as an opportunity to "line their pockets."

The United States does not have an extradition treaty with Russia, but McCord said she was hopeful Russian authorities would cooperate in bringing criminals to justice. The United States often charges cyber criminals with the intent of deterring future state-sponsored activity.

The administration of former President Barack Obama brought similar charges against Chinese and Iranian hackers who have not been extradited.

The 47-count indictment includes conspiracy, computer fraud and abuse, economic espionage, theft of trade secrets, wire fraud, access device fraud and aggravated identify theft.

The charges are not related to the hacking of Democratic Party emails during the 2016 presidential election. Intelligence agencies have said they were carried out by Russia to help the campaign of Republican candidate Donald Trump.

Yahoo said when it announced the then-unprecedented breach last September that it believed the attack was state-sponsored, and on Wednesday the company said the indictment "unequivocally shows" that to be the case.

Yahoo in December also announced a breach that occurred in 2013 affecting one billion accounts, though it has not linked that intrusion to the one in 2014.

The Russian hacking conspiracy, which began as early as 2014, allowed Belan to use his relationship with the Russian spy agency and access to Yahoo's network to engage in financial crimes, according to the indictment.

REUTERS

POLITICS

Senate confirms intelligence nominee, security adviser

The Senate voted overwhelmingly to confirm former Republican Sen. Dan Coats to be President Donald Trump's director of national intelligence and to approve Army Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster's transfer to become his national security adviser.

The vote was 85-12 to confirm Coats, who also served as ambassador to Germany under former President George W. Bush. Fifty-one votes were required for confirmation.

The only Republican who voted against Coats was Sen. Rand Paul, one of the Senate's leading privacy advocates, as are several of the Democrats who also voted against Coats.

Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden had said he would object to Coats' nomination because he felt the office of the director of national intelligence had not provided the committee with enough information about how many Americans' communication records had been subjected to government surveillance.

McMaster was approved in an 86-10 vote. No Republican senator voted against him.

REUTERS

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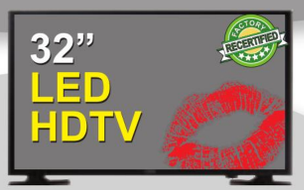

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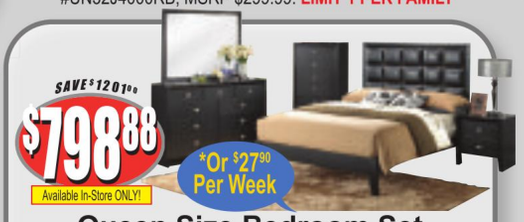

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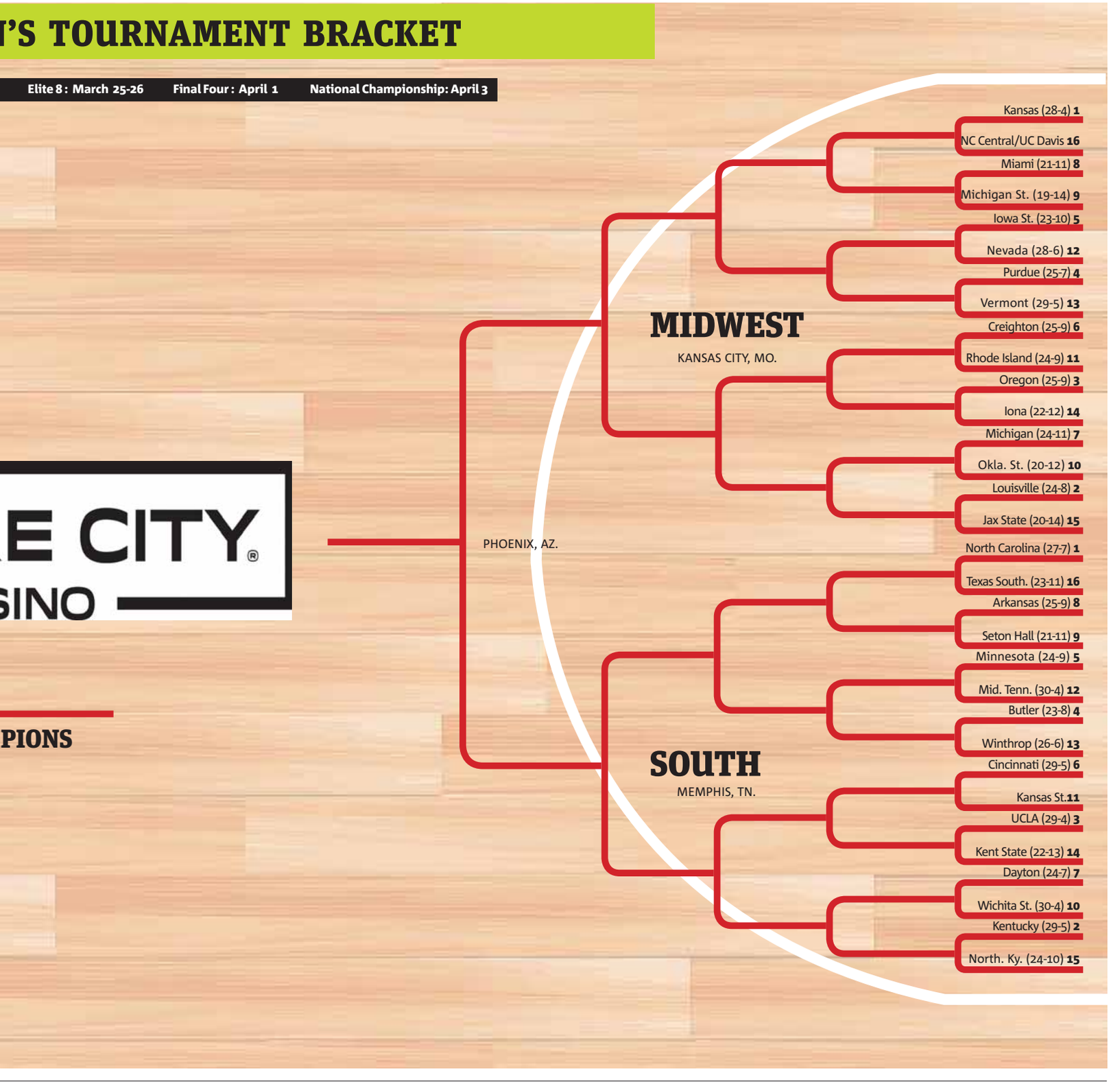

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ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Jesse James inspires with stupid words

Jesse James — who supposedly is a business man and television personality — is talking about his long ago marriage to Sandra Bullock with The Daily Mail. (The couple divorced in 2012, after some of James' mistresses came out about being his side pieces.) And trust me, he doesn't come off sounding like a good dude at all. Here's a quick lil' guide to all the stupid things he word vomited.

1. *"Yeah, I did cheat on my wife. I stood up … and apologized."* OK, sure. I'll give him this one.

2. *"Both women and men cheat … it's a part of life."* I mean, yes, that's true. But it doesn't necessarily have to be. Unless you choose for it to be. Which is something you did, my dude.

3. *"The easy insult is like, 'Oh, well you cheated on Sandra Bullock.' That's the world's easiest comeback."* Is it an insult if it's just a fact of life, though? Methinks no.

4. *"It's like people love to see you fall. And the farther you get, the higher you get the more they love it."* I love it when a grown man blames everyone else for his problems. Responsibility — who needs it?!

So just in case that was too long and you didn't read: Sandra Bullock's ex-husband is gross and thinks cheating is a chill, cool thing to do. And he's totally over the scandal of him cheating on her, which is why he's still talking about it seven years later. What an inspiration.

the word

RACHAEL CLEMMONS
rachael.clemmons@metro.us

Hilary Duff just figured out dating is terrible

Hilary Duff is speaking out about divorce, co-parenting and dating, and now she knows what all of us knew already: It's not always a gay old time.

The "Younger" actress admits to Redbook she's used to it now, but divorce is still a major drag. Duh! "Some of my friends tell me, 'God, it must be so nice, you get a break from your kid because you share him,'" Duff says. "I'm divorced and it sucks. Well, it did suck for a while; now it's just normal." Um, OK!

The 29-year-old, who is, for the record, not single, also laments that dating in L.A. is the worst. "I never think being single sucks until I go out in L.A. with my girlfriends and the options are terrible. I really attract the old men!" Just so you know, Duff is dating a musician named Matthew Koma right now. He's 29, which is just prehistoric, apparently.

I'm assuming he's involved in some sort of mystical Benjamin Button situation.

Lola Kirke is mad at Taylor Swift

Actress Lola Kirke — star of "Mozart in the Jungle," younger sister of Domino and Jemima — is fed up.

The outspoken 26-year-old thinks that Taylor Swift's lack of political stance in 2016 basically helped elect Donald Trump. Because if you have a platform, you should dang well use it.

Chatting with Vogue, she elaborated. "For me, it's really important to elevate voices and causes … I definitely think that there are certain celebrities who really could offer more help… and don't," Kirke continued. "Like Taylor f—g Swift, who may as well have voted for Trump, as far as I'm concerned, by not doing anything."

Oooh, Swift. Ya burnt! The youngest Kirke definitely has a point, but to be fair, the 27-year-old pop star usually only cares about a cause if it benefits her professionally. Like feminism, for example. Feminism helps Taylor Swift sell records, but voicing support for Black Lives Matter or Planned Parenthood probably wouldn't, ya dig? Why even bother!?

So yeah, I'm firmly #Team-Lola on this one.

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John Gallagher Jr. geeks out over action movies

The "Newsroom" alum talks about going from Eugene O'Neill to the bloody "The Belko Experiment."

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
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The last three movies John Gallagher Jr. has made have been genre fare. That's odd for him. Before he co-starred in last year's "10 Cloverfield Lane," he was a strictly serious actor. He was on "The Newsroom." He made indies and dramas like "Margaret" and "Short Term 12." He did Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey Into Night" on Broadway. Then all of a sudden he was in the semisequel to "Cloverfield," then the horror film "Hush."

Now he's in "The Belko Experiment," a bloody thriller about an office building in Colombia whose employees are trapped inside and forced to kill each other to survive. Gallagher, 32, plays an employee who definitely doesn't want to turn to murder.

John Gallaher Jr., left, plays an office monkey whose company traps its employees in the building and forces them to kill each other in "The Belko Experiment," in theaters Friday. ORION PICTURES

What made people want to finally cast you in more genre fare, do you think?

A lot of the directors I came across who've done horror have said that when they watched "The Newsroom," they felt I grounded some of the stakes and the dialogue in the show. They thought, "I'd love to put this guy in some extreme situations, to see how he reacts to that."

GETTY

Did you change up your approach at all?

I approach everything the same way, really. I approach Eugene O'Neill the same way I approach something like "The Belko Experiment." They're very different pieces, of course, but I always ask, "What does this guy want? What is he trying to do? How do I tell the truth within this story and make it real, make it believable, interesting?" But certainly doing four hours of Eugene O'Neill on stage is a little different from going to Colombia and being covered in fake blood every day. [Laughs]

In "10 Cloverfield Lane," you spent almost the entire movie sitting and talking. It was like theater. Here, you're running around and doing stunts and trying not to get killed. Did you find that exhausting and trying on your body?

Thankfully a lot of the theater I've done has been really physical. I did two musicals that were yearlong commitments ["Spring Awakening" and "American Idiot"]. They weren't like doing an action movie, but it was a lot of learning choreography and throwing yourself into the deep end, then doing it every night.

That made me game to show up on ["Belko"] and do as much as I can legally and safely do. It ends up being fun. You feel like a kid again. When I first wanted to become an actor, it was because I was watching action movies and playing in the backyard and making up these movies in my head. Suddenly you find yourself in an office building, dodging Molotov cocktails and realizing, "Yeah, I guess this is why I got into this."

Looking back

What were your favorite action movies growing up?

I still think "Die Hard" is the perfect action movie. And I loved the "Terminators." I definitely went through an Arnold phase as a kid, where he was my hero for a while. I was the Terminator for Halloween one year.

Schwarzenegger was one of my favorite movie stars as a kid, which is weird because so many of them are R-rated. I watched "Commando" on TV, with all the gory violence edited out.

I definitely had a "Commando" VHS tape from network TV that I watched over and over again. I had an edited copy of "RoboCop" I watched religiously as well. When I got older and saw the unrated version, I was like, "My god! That's so violent!"

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St. Patrick's Day deals

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Where to celebrate with food and drink specials.

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Friday is St. Paddy's Day, when our favorite green-themed drinking holiday takes over the city with a number of pubs and eateries offering food and drink specials to celebrate. Here's where you'll be lucky enough to score deals on green beers, shots of whiskey, bangers 'n mash and the like, from Friday through the weekend.

Grand Street St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl

The bustling East Williamsburg thoroughfare is packed with pubs and restaurants. Beginning Friday at 5 p.m., 12 different bars on Grand between Union and Bushwick avenues are offering food and drink specials, including the whiskey den Noorman's Kil ($8 for a draft of Rockaway Gold Black Stout and a shot of Tullamore Dew, $5 grilled cheese sandwiches) and the dive Bushwick Country Club (free hot dogs, $1 off stout, $4 Cutty Sark).
Friday, 5-9 p.m.
grandstreetbk.org

St. Paddy's Day Happy Hour at Atwood Kitchen & Bar Room

Knock off work early on Friday and head to this East Midtown watering hole, where it's happy hour all day: $6 shots of Fireball, $8 shots of whiskey and green beer and $15 pitchers of green beer.
Friday, 4-11 p.m., 986 Second Ave., atwoodny.com

St. Patrick's Day Weekend at Bohemian Bar & Beer Garden

At Astoria's go-to beer garden, put down drafts all weekend while enjoying Irish specials like shepherd's pie, fish and chips, and corned beef and cabbage.
Friday-Sunday
5 p.m.-12 a.m.
29-19 24th Ave.
bohemianhall.com

St. Paddy's Day Weekend at Loreley NYC

Warm your heart with happy hour deals on Friday from 6-8 p.m. at this (heated!) outdoor beer garden on the Lower East Side. Pints of Guinness, green lagers and shots of Jameson and Jagermeister go for $6 each. Then on Saturday and Sunday, enjoy a Kegs & Eggs brunch from noon-4 p.m., with a "ceremonial Guinness keg tapping" at 1 p.m.
7 Rivington St.
loreleynyc.com

Celebrate St. Paddy's Day at Rochelle's

All weekend long at the Lower East Side cocktail bar, they're serving cans of Guinness and a shot of Jameson for $9.
Friday-Sunday, 4-10 p.m.
205 Christie St.,
rochellesnyc.com

Treadwell Park Lunch Special

Need a lunch spot on Friday? The Upper East Side craft beer hub opens at 11 a.m., serving corned beef sandwiches ($12) and $9 red ales and oyster stouts from Porterhouse Brewing Co.
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America the conflicted

Assorted works (2016) Raul de Nieves MATTHEW CARASELLA

"Dusk" (2012) Jo Baer

"Evolution" (2016) Jon Kessler

"We Windy" (2016) Shara Hughes

"Debtfair" (2017) Occupy Museums VIA WHITNEYMUSEUM, TWITTER

The Whitney Biennial, the museum's showcase of contemporary artists, takes a brave look at American life.

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

The first piece you see of the Whitney Biennial is easily understood even if you're not a "Lord of the Rings" fan: the flaming Eye of Sauron, printed 29 feet wide by anonymous pop artist Puppies Puppies. Big Brother is watching — but so are we.

This year, the museum's biannual survey of American contemporary art is especially driven by a "sense of direct encounter," according to avant-garde chief curator Scott Rothkopf. There's never been a clearer sense that the American story is very different depending on who you are and where you live, and the works don't shy away from its ugliness or beauty.

"A lot of the works ask us to consider the forces that bring us together, as well as those that pull us apart" is how Mia Locks, one of the two young co-curators of the exhibit, along with Christopher Y. Lew, describes the Biennial, which opens to the public on Friday.

The exhibit includes works by 63 artists in every medium: paintings, video, sculpture, photographs, virtual reality, fabric and performance pieces, stretching from the museum's lobby to the eighth floor, along with pop-up shows and films.

Modern American life is inarguably fraught, but Lew and Locks have managed to confront heady issues with sensitivity. Maya Stovall's "Liquor Store Theatre" illustrates how these businesses function as community centers in Detroit. The confusion and loneliness as the past and present collide in Jo Baer's "deep time" paintings will make you want to call your grandparents.

In a work of staggering complexity, Samara Golden has made an Escher-esque tower of anxiety with sculptures of rooms and offices to reflect on social and political inequality. And, in perhaps the exhibition's funniest moment, Pope.L confronts our trust in statistics with a literal roomful of bologna slices.

Then there are bigger problems that certainly aren't confined to our shores. The specter of global warming brings us Asad Raza's sparse indoor forest of 26 potted trees. There are the digital addicts of Jon Kessler, so absorbed in their VR headsets that they don't notice the tide of electronic noise rising up to drown them. And Occupy Museums, a group that ties economic inequality to cultural institutions, has turned an entire wall of the Whitney into "Debtfair" that confronts the financial straits of artists while calling out the people — such as those on the boards of art museums — who profit from both their work and debt.

But life is also full of wonder, and the Biennial is not without its ebullient moments. John Divola hangs portraits in abandoned spaces to bring them back to life. Lauded saxophonist Kamasi Washington moves into video for the celebration that is "Harmony of Difference." Raul de Nieves updates stained glass art into the 21st century with a light-filled mural advocating peace and love, while Shara Hughes' near-realistic rainbow landscapes make it easy to take your imagination a dimension or two away.

Then there's arguably the most controversial piece. Frances Stark's "Censorship Now" fills an entire gallery with oversized book pages often dripping with red ink that explain why the only way for the media, government and, yes, artists, to become relevant again is by limiting which ideas get an audience.

It's a bold statement — expect more like it under the leadership of Rothkopf, who's looking for the voices that will challenge and shape the future of the art world. "The whole life of the institution," he says, "has really dedicated itself to new artists."

If you go

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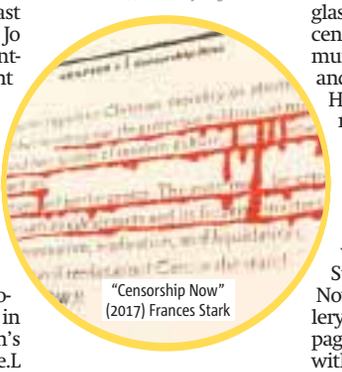

"Censorship Now" (2017) Frances Stark

"Childermass" (2017) Ajay Kurian ALL PHOTOS EVA KIS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

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March 18, 8 p.m.-1 a.m., 125 E. 11th St., $25, websterhall.com

ARTS

"Michael Cerveris and His Accomplices"

There are some people who can do it all, and one of them is Michael Cerveris, the Tony-winning leading man of "Fun Home" after turns in "Sweeney Todd" and "Hedwig." He'll perform pieces from his new acoustic album, "Piety," as well as two previous albums at this concert as part of the Sheen Center's Convergence — Indie Artist Series, which highlights performers who straddle the music and theater genres.
March 16, 7:30 p.m.
18 Bleecker St., $35
sheencenter.org

PARTY

Swing House

Gatsby-themed parties get a twist at Swing House, Gemini and Scorpio's annual celebration that combines dance hall energy with jazz bands and burlesque. Learn the moves during a dance class, play casino games and drink "illicit" cocktails and partying like it's 1929. Of course, it's a speakeasy, so the locale is hush-hush: Once you buy tickets, you'll receive the address of a secret loft in Gowanus.
March 18, 9 p.m., $20-$80
geminiandscorpio.com

FOOD

Winter's Grind

Bushwick's barbecue party spot Arrogant Swine becomes a sausage and beer party (inside a heated tent) this weekend. Owner Tyson Ho and friends will make the sausages — chicken satay, Pakistani veal, Sicilian lamb and even a veggie option — while 10 breweries from around the city and a couple of homebrewers put their best seasonal beers forward. The event is all-you-can everything.
March 18, 1-4 p.m.
Arrogant Swine, 173 Morgan Ave., Brooklyn, $40
arrogantswine.com

WEDDING PLANNING

Wedding Crashers

You don't need a ring (or even a significant other) to enjoy spending the day surrounded by the frills of a well-planned wedding day. Sip bubbly, taste cake, gawk at gorgeous gowns, discuss decor, browse venues, talk to photographers and plan all the details of your dream ceremony at Wedding Crashers, Brooklyn's annual fair dedicated to all things nuptial. VIP entry includes raffle tickets and a goody bag from vendors. Afterward, visit the Wedding Crashers Live band showcase at the Bell House from 3-6 p.m.
March 19, 11:30 a.m-3 p.m.
501 Building and the Green Union, Union and Bond Sts, Brooklyn, $20-$40
brooklynweddingfair.com

BOOKS

"Jesus' Son"

This is going to be the most star-studded book party you've ever been to. Actors Billy Crudup and Chris Bauer will perform excerpts of the film adaptation of Denis Johnson's "Jesus' Son," a groundbreaking collection of short stories, in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The book's legacy also gets a star-studded discussion with Michael Cunningham ("The Hours"), Chuck Palahniuk ("Fight Club"), Jenny Offill ("Dept. of Speculation") and Victor LaVille ("The Devil in Silver").
March 20, 7:30 p.m.
Symphony Space
2537 Broadway, $25
symphonyspace.org

Joy the Baker

When you're celebrating a new cookbook, expect more than just an author talk and signing. Joy Wilson, aka Joy the Baker, will discuss her latest tome, "Over Easy: Sweet and Savory Recipes for Leisurely Days," with fellow food writer Deb Perelman of Smitten Kitchen, with free refreshments and tastings of some of her recipes.
March 20, 6-8 p.m.
Rizzoli Bookstore
1133 Broadway, free
rizzolibookstore.com

TALK

TEDxBroadway

From raising funds to analyzing audience trends, it takes a lot to earn success on Broadway. You can learn a lot more about those behind-the-scenes processes from the people who put it all together at TEDxBroadway, which returns to New World Stages with a full day dedicated to the famous talk series next Tuesday. Speakers from the theater community include Tina Landau ("The Spongebob Musical"), Gus Rogerson (The 52nd Street Project) and Alton Fitzgerald White ("The Lion King").
March 21, 1-7:15 p.m.
New World Stages
340 W. 50th St., $100
tedxbroadway.com

TASTING

Coffee & Tea Festival

Sure, you might brag about how many cups of joe you knock back to make it through each day, and you can probably pronounce a few fancy teas, but if you want to really run with the caffeine connoisseurs, check out the Coffee & Tea Festival in Brooklyn this weekend with over 75 exhibitors from around the world. Sip from among more than 100 beverages while you chatting with sellers and attending seminars to learn about food science, new products and more.
March 18-19
Brooklyn Expo Center, 72 Noble St.
$25-$35, coffeeandteafestival.com

COMEDY

Las Culturistas Live

Fifty comedians will get one minute to rant about anything they like at "I Don't Think So, Honey," the first live outing for the "Las Culturistas" podcast. Comedians include Sasheer Zamata ("SNL"), Dylan Marron ("Sitting in Bathrooms with Trans People") and Aparna Nancherla ("Last Comic Standing").
March 21, 8 p.m.
Littlefield
622 Degraw St., $8-$10
littlefieldnyc.com

T. MICHELLE MURPHY

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Where the craic is

Munich sets aside its German beer allegiances for one day a year to embrace St. Paddy's. GETTY IMAGES

New York City

The country's (and the world's) largest St. Patrick's Day celebration attracts over 2 million people for the city's grand parade on March 17. There are no floats or cars allowed in the parade, which features bands, bagpipers and dancers, and typically between 150,000 to 250,000 participants.

Dublin

Of course Dublin hosts one of the biggest St. Patrick's Day celebrations: five days filled with boat races, the Irish Beer & Whiskey Festival, music and street performances, and a spectacular parade. This year the festival runs March 16-19. The parade, which takes place on St. Patrick's Day, attracts about half a million spectators to watch the procession from Parnell Square to St. Patrick's Cathedral. And as part of "greening the city," major landmarks throughout Dublin, such as the Natural History Museum and St. Patrick's Cathedral, are given a green glow.

Sydney

The Sydney Opera House turns green for St. Patrick's Day and so does the rest of the city. With a huge themed parade (dating back more than 200 years) on the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day, there's also pre- and postparade entertainment along the streets of Sydney.

Chicago

The Windy City truly commits to St. Patrick's Day by dyeing the Chicago River green every season. On the Saturday before St. Patrick's Day, more than 400,000 people gather along the Chicago River to watch 45 pounds of vegetable dye turn the murky river a bright green. Even more spectators gather for the city's parade at noon.

Montreal

Since its inauguration in 1824, the Montreal St. Patrick's Day Parade has never been cancelled, regardless of poor weather in past years. The festivities take place on the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day and includes floats, bands and plenty of costumes.

Montserrat

Another place often referred to as "the Emerald Isle," this island in the British West Indies is the only place outside of Ireland where St. Patrick's Day is considered a public holiday. To celebrate, the country has a 10-day festival, which has included a St. Patrick's Day dinner, a Kite Festival and performances by the Emerald Community Singers Irish Cabaret.

Savannah

With one of the largest St. Patrick's Day celebrations in the world, Savannah's festivities draw more than 300,000 people each year. The annual parade will feature horses and a variety of floats on March 17. The city's festivities also include a celebration on River Street, with vendors and live musical performances, and the Tara Feis Irish Celebration, with crafts, storytellers and musical performances.

Munich

With one of the more recently established St. Patrick's Day traditions (the parade dates back to 1995), Munich's festivities are gaining more traction each year. With about 15,000 participants, the city shuts down Leopold Strasse in order to celebrate the Irish holiday.

Buenos Aires

Not only is Buenos Aires home to the largest St. Patrick's Day celebration in South America, but the city is home to the fifth-largest Irish community in the world. The result is a St. Patrick's Day street festival taking up 10 blocks along Reconquista Street, with music and dancing. And their annual parade, which ends at the Plaza San Martin, features Celtic musical selections and a leprechaun costume contest.

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It's whiskey season

Bars specializing in the hot spirit are growing in popularity, and we've got your guide on the ones to know.

Fodor's Travel

Get your whiskey on with some Southern charm at Yardbird in Miami. FACEBOOK

Delilah's

Punk rock meets hipster hangout at Delilah's. The offbeat Chicago venue hosts DJs and heavy metal nights, and displays work from local artists. Guests can sit back in green vinyl bar stools and sip a glass of rye, or browse an extensive menu including house-made bourbon, rye and scotch.

Jack Rose Dining Saloon

Stepping into this Washington, D.C., saloon is a whiskey lover's dream. Walls are lined with more than 1,500 bottles of spirits, and guests can enjoy a drink in multiple venues: The bar's main level boasts a grand wooden bar, while the upstairs area offers an outdoor terrace and laid-back atmosphere.

The Pope House Bourbon Lounge

Traditional Kentucky-style bourbon forms the backbone of Portland's Pope House. The bar hand-selects its bottles from Kentucky distilleries and also offers an extensive spirit list with rare, top-shelf liquors. Visitors can also enjoy the bar's "Bourbon Derby" program, which allows guests to sample 50 varieties of bourbon.

Yardbird Southern Table and Bar

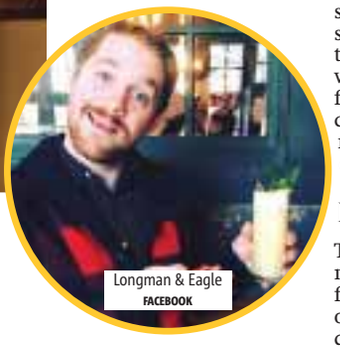
Fried chicken, biscuits and booze are just a few of the things you'll find at Yardbird. The Miami restaurant and bar conjures up images of a Southern honky-tonk, featuring bourbon that would please the most discerning bootlegger. House cocktails are served in Ball jars, and guests can choose from more than 75 varieties of bourbon.

Rickhouse

This San Francisco bar is usually packed to the brim, drawing visitors with its sky-high shelves of liquor, stunning wood interiors and live music. Whiskey is the beverage of choice, and guests can sample artisanal cocktails made from all-natural ingredients.

Ward III

Founded by three journeymen bartenders, New York City's Ward III elevates cocktail-making to an art form. The upscale lounge features dark, understated interiors and a menu with an impressive range of bitters, spices and spirits. Bespoke cocktails allow guests to customize their drinks:



Longman & Eagle
FACEBOOK

Browse categories such as spirit, texture and spice to create a unique libation.

Sanctuaria Wild Tapas

Best known for its tapas, Sanctuaria in St. Louis is quickly making a name for itself as a popular whiskey bar. Mixologist Matt Seitler whips up custom cocktails with house-made liqueurs and bitters, and a rotating menu of seasonal drinks.

Village Whiskey

It's all in the name at Philadelphia's Village Whiskey. The speakeasy-style bar serves up more than 80 varieties of the spirit — neat, shaken or stirred. Cocktails combine traditional ingredients with contemporary flavors, including themed creations like the Commodore, with bourbon, orange bitters and lime.

Longman & Eagle

The philosophy at Longman & Eagle is "whiskey for your mouth, not for our shelves," and the bar doesn't disappoint. The hip Chicago gastropub offers 148 bottles, 38 of which are available for daily tasting. Guests can purchase a shot for $3 or opt for a themed whiskey flight. Don't miss the pub's rye cocktails like the Word Find (Rittenhouse Rye, green chartreuse, cherry essence).

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FANTASY BASEBALL DRAFT ADVICE: TAKE CHANCES ON LAMB, MATZ, BEDROSIAN

KYLE BISHOP

OPINION

Kyle Bishop is a lead MLB columnist at RotoBaller.com. His articles and Fantasy Baseball Rankings are your secret weapon for winning fantasy leagues.

We're right in the thick of fantasy baseball draft season. For any remaining drafts you have in 2017, consider the following bargain alternatives to some popular targets. ADP data is pulled from NFBC (National Fantasy Baseball Championship).

Third base: Draft Jake Lamb (ADP: 148) instead of Kyle Seager (67)
Seager had a sizable advantage in batting average (.278 to .249 for Lamb) but otherwise their end of season totals were quite similar. Seager hit 30 home runs, scored 89 runs and tallied 99 RBIs while stealing three bases. Lamb hit 29 bombs, scored 81 runs, knocked in 91 and swiped six bags. It's worth pointing out that at the All-Star break, Lamb was hitting .291. Early in the second half, he sustained a hand injury that clearly hampered him for the remainder of the year. If he's anything close to the monster we saw in the first half, Lamb could outproduce Seager this time around despite being available 80 picks later.

Outfield: Draft Jackie Bradley Jr. (145) instead of George Springer (34)
Since the light went on for him in the second half of 2015, JBJ has hit .266 with 134 runs, 35 home runs, 127 RBIs and 11 steals. During that span, Bradley ranks 15th among outfielders in homers and is top 10 in runs and RBI. Prorate those numbers to 600 plate appearances and you get .266-94-25-89-8. Springer, meanwhile, produced a .261-116-29-82-9 last season. Is a 110-pick difference justified by a handful more runs scored? And that's if Springer plays every day again this year. After missing big chunks of his first two seasons, that's no sure thing.

Sometimes when drafting, it's better to zig when everyone else zags. GETTY IMAGES

Starting pitcher: Draft Steven Matz (164) instead of Cole Hamels (83)
Hamels has a much longer track record of success than Matz, of course. But he's also 33 years old and coming off his worst season in nearly a decade. While both pitchers struck out about a batter per inning and posted ERAs in the 3.30-3.40 range, Matz had a better WHIP (1.21 to 1.31 for Hamels). Each pitcher plays for a contender, so they're likely to produce similar win totals. Matz is younger, pitches in the easiest league and park, and can be had a full seven rounds after Hamels.

Closer: Draft Cam Bedrosian (219) instead of David Robertson (124)
Robertson's strikeout percentage has dropped from 37 percent to 28 percent over the last two seasons. He's also seen his ERA rise in each of the last three years, and just posted his worst WHIP (1.36) this decade. With the White Sox entering a full-scale rebuild, Robertson is widely expected to be traded at some point during 2017. So, while Bedrosian may not have a death grip on the ninth inning in L.A. just yet, that's not enough to justify the gap in ADP between them. Especially when you consider that Bedrosian's ratios (1.12 ERA, 1.09 WHIP) were much better, and he posted better strikeout and walk rates. The Angels' bullpen is terrible, so unless Huston Street (who's already injured again) has a comeback in him, Bedrosian's a good bet to take the reins fairly soon.

NYCFC looking to take the next step in 2017 season

New York City FC hasn't lost a home opener in its three-year existence. And if last week's opener showed anything, a dominating 4-0 win over D.C. United, it's that City can be as dominant a home squad this year as it was on the road, last season.

And just as importantly, it appears City has eliminated any hangover from the way their 2016 season ended, when they dropped a 5-0 home decision to Toronto FC in the playoffs.

Midfielder Thomas McNamara said last season's disappointment is in the rearview mirror and is excited at what the new-look squad has to offer.

"Obviously it ended disappointingly last season at home, but it was great to get back at it again at home in front of our crowd. It was good seeing them again and seeing them getting behind us from the beginning," McNamara said. "Last season should [provide extra motivation]. We'll find out how much as the season unfolds, but I believe it will because it left a sour taste in all our mouths. We want to be better than last year and compete for the championship."

The journey for that championship began the previous week in Orlando. And while they lost, 1-0, in its season opener, it seems to be more like an anomaly than the norm for this season, as head coach Patrick Vieira finally seems to have the players he's always wanted to play his style. The sputtering in Orlando already seems so far away, as what City did to United in the Bronx was so dominant and crisp that the rest of the league should be on notice. NYCFC executed a complete victory, particularly reigning league Most Valuable Player David Villa, who notched two goals and an assist and essentially erased United defender Steve Birnbaum, who as a national team player is no slouch of his own. City controlled for 61 percent of the match, which could be a sign of things to come as the season unfolds.

Are the new-look NYCFC here to stay? GETTY IMAGES

NYCFC is leaner, faster, and perhaps even more comfortable with Vieira's system than they were last year, and the holdovers have taken notice.

"It's been great. It's been a very short amount of [practice] time, so these things have to develop organically. You can't force it or pretend that there's chemistry when there isn't," midfielder Thomas McNamara said about the new pieces fitting. "But it's come along great since all the new guys have come onboard about a week into the preseason.

It's a natural process to learn everyone and it'll take some time for us all to fully start clicking." TONY WILLIAMS

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March Madness: 5 can't-miss games to watch on Day 1

Make sure to catch these five matchups, even if you're sneaking it from work.

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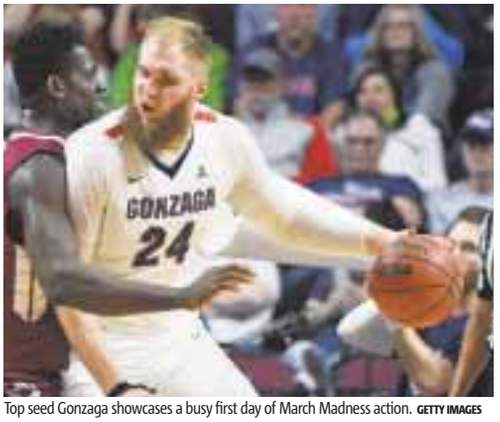

Top seed Gonzaga showcases a busy first day of March Madness action. GETTY IMAGES

With games on all day and night on four different channels, everyone knows that the first two days of the NCAA men's basketball tournament are some of the best in the entire sports year. Things start for real on Thursday afternoon as **No. 12 Princeton meets No. 5 Notre Dame** in Buffalo, New York, at 12:15 p.m. on CBS in the opener. The Tigers (23-6) went 14-0 in the Ivy League then survived overtime versus Penn and they beat Yale in the inaugural Ivy League Tournament (four teams). The Irish (25-9) seem to be peaking at the right time as they advanced to the ACC Tournament championship game before losing to Duke (27-8).

The No. 1 seed in the West, **Gonzaga (32-1), tips off against No. 16 South Dakota State** (18-16) in Salt Lake City, Utah, at 2 p.m. on TBS. It looked like the Bulldogs might have the albatross of an unbeaten record coming into the tournament before a late season loss to BYU. They have never reached a Final Four in program history. Could this finally be their time?

Not since Florida in 2006 and 2007 has a team won back-to-back national championships, but many think that **Villanova (31-3),** the No. 1 overall seed in the tournament, can do it out of the East region. They begin in Buffalo (7:10 p.m., CBS) with a matchup **against No. 16 Mount St. Mary's (20-15)** who edged New Orleans (20-12) 67-66 on Tuesday in the First Four. **No. 13 Vermont (29-5)**, champions of America East, is an intriguing team since they come in riding the longest win streak in the country at 21 games. They'll **meet No. 4 Purdue (25-7)** who is generally regarded as the best team in the Big 10 (which was very down this year). If history is any indication, the Catamounts have a chance since they were also a 13-seed when they knocked off No. 4 Syracuse in 2005, the signature win in school history.

America fell in love with **No. 14 Florida Gulf Coast (26-7)** in 2013 when they reached the Sweet 16. Dunk City is back in the tournament for the second straight year and they get to **face No. 3 Florida State (25-8)** in Orlando (9:20 p.m., TNT). Last season they crushed Fairleigh Dickinson in the First Four before losing to No. 1 seed North Carolina. Beware the athletic and high-flying Eagles, that's why the Seminoles will be a trendy pick for a higher seed to go down in their first game.

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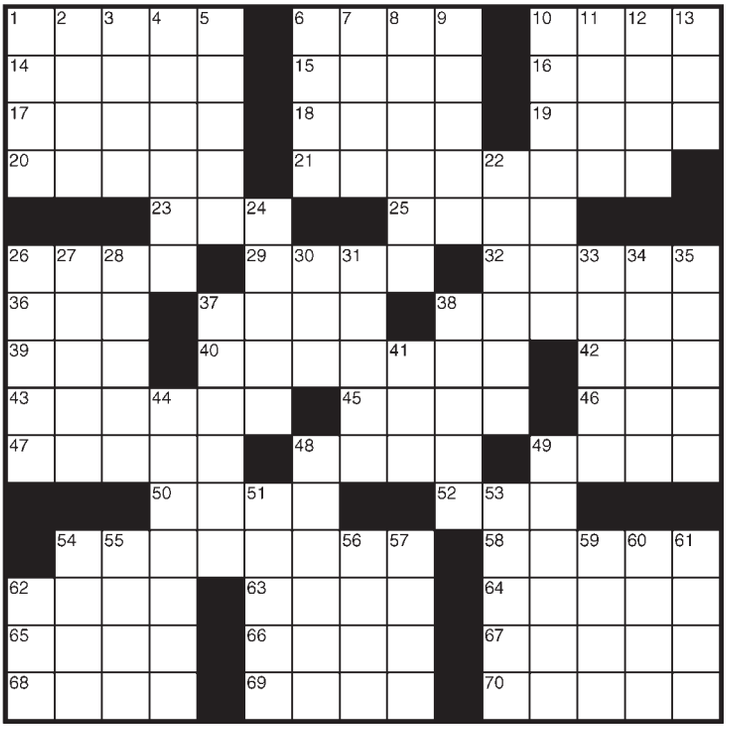
Across
1 Home
6 Vacuum attachment
10 Pivot
14 Naive ones
15 Roman love god
16 Court ritual
17 Formal command
18 DVD contents
19 Hawaiian guitars
20 Tractor pioneer
21 Fetters
23 Before, to poets
25 Chimney's place
26 "Green Gables" girl
29 Fluctuate
32 Sand formations
36 Big extinct bird
37 Mineral deposit
38 Mum
39 Computer key
40 Art of flower-arrangement
42 NASA counterpart
43 Act properly
45 Kramer or Estrada
46 Copy a cassette
47 Taos dwelling
48 Dropped on the charts
49 Certain votes
50 Rooney or Gibb
52 Long, long time
54 Used up
58 Old Greek marketplace
62 Hairless
63 Auction site
64 Treasure hunter's aid
65 Alice's chronicler
66 Finish last
67 Break out
68 Be sincere
69 Husky's vehicle
70 Full of back talk

Down
1 Not up yet
2 Commanded
3 Drama award
4 Royal order
5 Chemical compound
6 Gamblers' rolls
7 Asian nanny
8 Public official
9 Big Dipper neighbor
10 Expressive
11 Result of damming
12 Navajo foes
13 Codgers' queries
22 Ferocious bear
24 Call to mind
26 It divides to multiply (var.)
27 Sniffed at
28 Salsa go-with
30 Summer drink
31 Rise up
33 Poor
34 Come next
35 Iffy attempts
37 Peps up
38 Catty
41 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
44 Desert
48 Icon
49 Long, silky wool
51 Sword fights
53 Camel halts
54 Diligence
55 Earthenware pot
56 Unaffected manner
57 Changed hair color
59 Burden
60 Knocks firmly
61 Affected
62 Ka-pow!



metro.us/sudoku

easy

3		9	4	2				
	4			1		2		6
	1		6			4		
		8			5			
	9	5		4		6	3	
			1			7		
		4			1		2	
9		6		5			1	
				9	7	3		4

hard

3					9	2		4
				6				
1	7		2				8	
	1		7			3	2	
	5	4				9	1	
	8	3			6		4	
	9				8		6	2
				9				
4		7	6					5

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Hard work will pay off if you follow through with your plans. Use your ingenuity and ability to put a unique spin on whatever you do. Trust your judgment.

Taurus Association with people different from yourself will give you a broader view of possibilities. Open-mindedness will ensure that you get the most out of an experience.

Gemini Keep a watchful eye on what others are doing. Protecting your position, reputation and assets will be necessary. Don't let anger take control.

Cancer Don't be afraid to do things differently. If you separate yourself from the crowd, you will discover a niche you feel passionate about pursuing.

Leo Be creative and work alone to bring about the changes you want to see happen. Use experience as your guide to making the right decisions.

Virgo Put effort into relationships. Making plans that will bring you and a loved one closer together or keep you on an even playing field will result in a stronger bond.

Libra Look for alternative ways to raise your income. Add more qualifications or skills to your toolkit or start a sideline service that will bring in extra cash.

Scorpio Make changes to a workspace or studio. Time spent physically working toward your goal will ease stress and end well.

Sagittarius Get the facts and move forward. Bring about changes that will make you happy. Be prepared to take advantage of opportunities. Tackle your responsibilities first.

Capricorn Pull out all the stops and stick to what you know and do best. Don't fear being different. It's your uniqueness that will help you overcome any conflict.

Aquarius Prepare to make alterations that will improve your attitude and appearance. Your gift of gab and entertaining outlook will attract attention.

Pisces Don't get angry or frustrated over trivial matters. Keep your finances in order and refuse to divulge information about your personal life. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

L	A	D	S		T	W	I	T		R	A	C	E	D
E	R	A	T		H	A	L	E		E	L	O	P	E
N	I	N	E		R	Y	E	S		V	A	D	E	R
T	A	K	E	S	O	N		S	O	I	R	E	E	
			L	I	B	E	L		F	E	M			
R	A	V	E	N	S		O	U	T	W	E	A	R	S
A	F	I	R	E		R	I	S	E		D	R	A	M
N	F	L		W	H	I	T	E	N	S		R	I	O
G	I	L	A		A	C	E	S		C	L	O	N	K
E	X	A	M	I	N	E	R		B	R	O	W	S	E
			M	O	D		S	C	O	U	R			
	D	R	O	W	S	E		H	Y	B	R	I	D	S
D	I	A	N	A		M	A	U	I		I	D	E	A
E	L	G	I	N		I	S	M	S		E	L	A	N
F	L	E	A	S		R	U	S	H		S	E	N	D

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